

# International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction Newsletter - October, 2022



## From the Desk of the Executive Director, Kevin P. Mulvey, PhD

As you may be aware our previous Executive Director, Dr. Kim Johnson has decided to move into semi-retirement and in April was I hired as the new executive director. It has been an exciting time for us at ICUDDR during this transition and the summer month.



We had several achievements:

- Developed the 5 year Strategic Plan
- Received funding for Year 4 of our grant with INL.
- Developed additional promotional materials for ICUDDR in Spanish, French, Portuguese and English.
- Attended and promoted ICUDDR at several events (See page 3).

We have developed or are developing MOUs with the following:

- College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD).
- International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM).
- University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC).
- International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA).

We want to hear from you are members on how you find this new version of the newsletter as well as what you would like to see discussed. Please let me know at

[mulveyk@icuddr.org](mailto:mulveyk@icuddr.org)

## Meet an ICUDDR Staff Person:

### Cary Hopkins Eyles, CAP, MA, Deputy Director

Cary Hopkins Eyles is a certified addictions professional with 20 years of experience in the field of substance use disorders. She began her career in this field after graduating with a master's degree in criminology and becoming a counselor at a non-profit treatment center working with women and their children. In that non-profit organization, Cary moved into leadership roles and managed the Residential and Criminal Justice related programs. She has also supervised outpatient and pre-trial diversion programs. Prior to coming to ICUDDR, Cary helped oversee the Universal Treatment Curricula Coordinating Center at the University of South Florida.



Cary is a passionate teacher and trainer – conducting trainings as a Global Master trainer on various substance use disorder topics, adult learning principles, self-care for addictions professionals, the role of shame in substance use cycles, motivational enhancement, and more. She is an instructor at the University of South Florida, teaching courses on drugs, crime, and the criminal justice system. She recently created and taught a course about trauma in all aspects of the criminal justice system.

## Welcome New Members to the ICUDDR Family:

Today we have 325 University Members in 80 countries from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and the United States and Canada.

We welcome 3 new university members from:

- Tyler Junior College
- Universidad Anahuac Mexico
- Central New Mexico Community College

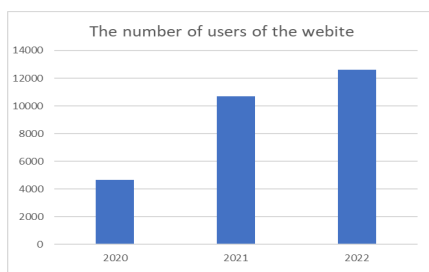
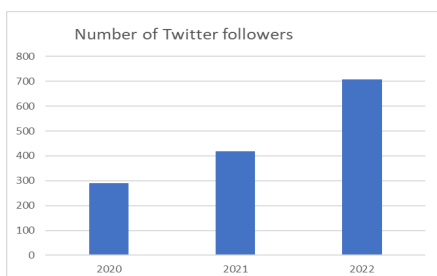
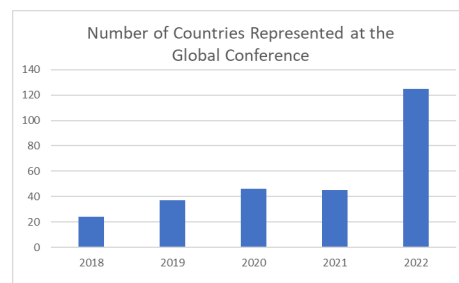
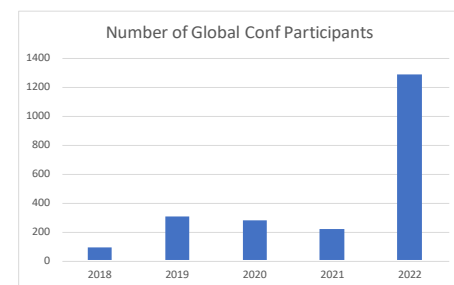
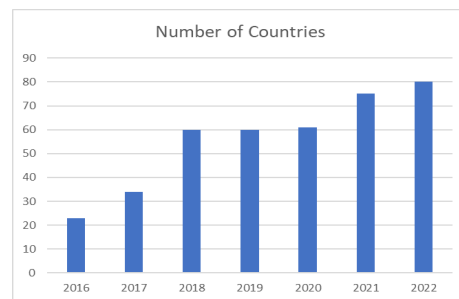
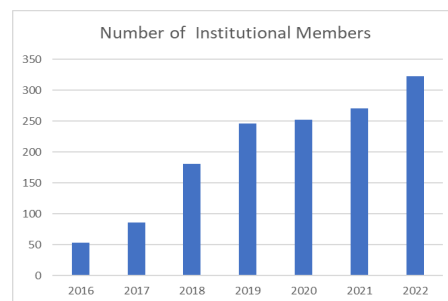
# ICUDDR Performance (2016-2022)

The International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR) was created in 2016 to support the development of a sustainable infrastructure for developing the workforce that addresses drug use. Initially begun by a small group of university faculty, it was incorporated as a U.S. not-for-profit in 2018 and received its IRS 501c3 status in July 2019.

Since that time we have added several components to facilitate and promote ICUDDR including: Webinars, a website, twitter account and active tweets. We have also since 2016 held our premier event, the ICUDDR global conference.

One critical component of any organization is to monitor its progress via inputs outputs, and outcomes. This section provides the finding of a few of these selected indicators over time. Clearly as can be seen by the graphs, we have had good positive growth over time. A few of the measures started post 2016 as the organization and program developed.

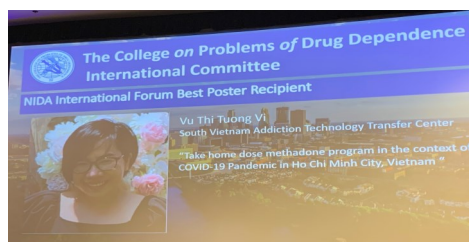
It is important to point out one anomaly –the data on the global conference for 2022. This conference was the first to be held in person since the pandemic and it was held in conjunction with the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP) and thus this number reflect the entire number of attendees not just ICUDDR.



## Education, Training and Conferences

### NIDA Forum

This past summer ICUDDR participated in three main international meetings, including the NIDA International Forum in June which was held virtually. At this meeting, held June 9 and 10, Dr. Michal Miovsky, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic and President of the Board of ICUDDR presented on “New Trends in Education and Training Programs in Addictions at the Higher Education and University Levels” followed by Dr. Susana Henriques of the Universidade Aberta de Portugal, Lisbon, Portugal. She presented on “Evaluating an Online Training Course in Prevention” The third presenter was Ms. Ma Veronica Felipe from Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila Philippines, presented on the “Adaptation of UTC to Philippine.” Dr. Kevin P. Mulvey, Executive Director, was the session chair



Also held in June following the NIDA forum was the annual meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) held in Minneapolis Minnesota. At this meeting there were several posters presented by members of ICUDDR. Ms. Vi Truong from Ho Chi Minh University of Pharmacy and Medicine had her poster recognized as the NIDA International Forum Best Poster. The poster reported on her work and the work of her colleagues.

### College of Problems On Drug Dependence (CPDD)

Dr. Kevin P. Mulvey participated in a panel in a workshop: “Did You Hear About the Looming Global Fentanyl Crisis?: A Quick Start for Addiction Scientists Across the World.” This workshop consisted of several presentations including Drs Wilson Compton of NIDA and Dr Steve Gust, NIDA-Retired. The presentations focused on international work and funding in the areas of drug use with a focus on Fentanyl. Dr. Compton provided the latest epidemiological work and program opportunities in this area, Dr Gust focused on International programming, and Dr. Mulvey rounded out the presentation discussing ICUDDR and the need for promoting and supporting Universities and Colleges in their development of Addiction Studies Programs. The workshop was chaired by Drs. Filbey and Svikis from the University of Texas-Dallas and Virginia Commonwealth University, respectively.



### Webinar: Adult Learning Principles Series

In our ongoing course, Susana Henriques and Cary Hopkins Eyles are educating about, and demonstrating, the concepts of Adult Learning Principles also known as andragogy. In the session held on October 11, 2022, using technology and online training with adult learners was discussed. Multiple digital platforms were introduced and identified for the strengths of the platform. Critical concepts for deciding which platforms to use were presented such as being comfortable with digital platforms chosen, thinking of yourself and the student as an ecosystem, and promoting transversal skills and providing regular feedback. This session is available at Adult Learning Principles - Module 6: Using Technology and Online Learning with Adult Learners - YouTube and the next one will be held November 8th at 10am. register at: Adult Learning Principles - Module 7: Partnering with Adult Learners. <https://icuddr.org>

## Education, Training and Conferences

### International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM)



In early October a number of presentations were given at the ISAM meeting. The first was a symposium on **Research to Practice: Strategies to get the science into the education (addiction studies courses) and to practice**. This session was moderated by Hoang Huy Vu, MD, MPH, Sr Public Health Advisor, CDC Vietnam. The session was standing room only and consisted of 4 presentations:

- **Presentation #1:** Translating evidence into practice in addiction medicine: The role and experience of universities in Africa, Dr. Beatrice Kathungu, Regional Coordinator, Africa
- **Presentation #2** Experiences of science to practice: Addiction studies in Thailand higher education Dr. Prapapun Chucharoen, Mahidol University, ICUDDR Regional Coordinator Asia-Pacific.
- **Presentation #3** Implementation of Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Programs in HEIs: Challenges and Opportunities, Salman Shazad, PhD, Assoc Professor, University of Karachi (This paper was presented by Ms Carly Searcy.)
- **Presentation #4** University Postgraduate training on addictions at Spain: The experience of the University of Barcelona, Xavier Ferrer, Psy D, Director, and Fran Calvo, Ph. D. Management and direction team, Master on addictions, University of Barcelona.

The discussant for the session was the Executive Director of ICUDDR.



The second panel presentation consisted of Dr. Kevin P. Mulvey presenting on what is ICUDDR and the role of ICUDDR in supporting the development of addiction Studies programs. Ms. Carly Searcy gave a presentation co-authored with Cary Hopkins Eyles entitled: Developing an addictions program and research center: Implementation support. This was rounded out by Dr Hoang Huy Vu who gave a presentation entitled: Research to Practice: Strategies to get the science into the education (addiction studies courses) and to practice: The Case of Vietnam.



## Research

In 2022, ICUDDR, with funding from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) focused on three areas of work: Reducing disparities by awarding mini-grants to five researchers in low and middle-resource countries, building the capacity of those researchers by pairing each with a US-based partner-mentor, and investigating barriers to conducting research via a survey.

ICUDDR awarded 5 mini-grants of \$5000 USD to support researchers in low and middle income countries (as defined by the World Bank). Research projects investigated a wide range of topics:

- Acquisition and use of methamphetamine;
- Effectiveness of mindfulness based relapse prevention techniques in reducing craving;
- Prevalence of cannabis use in a sample of college students;
- COVID impacts on SUD; and
- Determinants of substance use among young people in India.

## ICUDDR NIDA Mini-Grant Awardees

*ICUDDR NIDA mini-grants provided support to researchers in low and middle-income countries in preliminary data collection and analysis.*



**Dr. U Venkatesh**  
*All India Institute of  
Medical Sciences  
(AIIMS)*

**Dr. Charles  
Orjiakor**  
*University of  
Nigeria*

**Dr. Stephen Asatsa**  
*Catholic University  
of Eastern Africa*

**Dr. Valentine  
Ucheagwu**  
*Nnamdi Azikiwe  
University Awka*

**Dr. Gladys Bett**  
*University of  
Kabianga*

Research partner mentors were selected based on the grantee's area of research, and mentors were:

- Langone Medical Center at New York University
- Brown University
- University of Washington,
- Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
- University of Utah, and
- University of Nevada at Reno

All grant applicants and mentors were invited to attend a series of webinars on topics including NIDA priorities, international research partnerships, and publishing, promotion and policy making. Grantees were invited to attend the webinar series "Publishing Addiction Science" and invited to attend the ICUDDR global conference in Abu Dhabi. All five grantees were in the process of drafting their results for publication at the end of the grant cycle.

In addition to working with grantees, the NIDA grant supported a survey of our members to investigate barriers to conducting research. The survey was provided in both English and Spanish, thanks to our partners at CICAD. Quantitative analysis showed that lack of funding is the largest barrier to conducting research, followed by lack of skilled personnel. The most frequently cited barrier in open ended responses was bias, followed by funder-created barriers such as grant requirements and workforce barriers such as pay and recruitment. This grant provided an opportunity to address the lack of research from low and middle income countries in a small, focused implementation that could be scaled up if ongoing funding becomes available.

## Regional Activities-Southeast Asia-Pacific Region

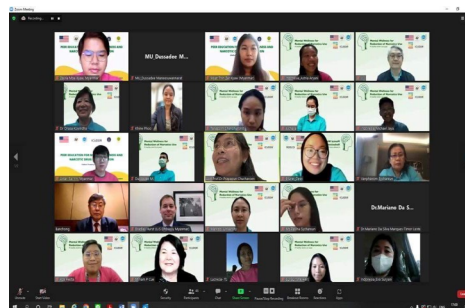
Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) is the U.S. government's signature initiative to engage emerging leaders in Southeast Asia. The program aims to create a network of young Southeast Asian leaders who work across national borders to solve common problems. Through a variety of programs and engagements, YSEALI seeks to build the leadership capabilities youth in the region, strengthen ties between the United States and Southeast Asia, and nurture a community of leaders who work across borders to solve shared issue.

In 2022, the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy Rangoon, in partnership with ICUDDR initiated a Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Regional Workshop on Mental Wellness for Reduction of Narcotics Use. This YSEALI training held 3 virtual workshop with a focus on; Series I Brain Science & Addict: Physiology and Pharmacology for Addiction; Series II Treatment and Prevention for Substance Use Disorders and Series III Mental Wellness with New Normal life skill.

After completing the workshop the participants are presenting developing their projects and will present their findings in a final report.



of



## UPCOMING ICUDDR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES-

- Coordination Meeting with Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) at the Organization of American States (OAS). November 1, 2022, Washington, DC
- Alcohol is a Still a Drug A Presentation by Dr Ralph Hingson, NIAAA. November 4, 2022, Webinar Series.
- Adult Learning Principle Course with Cary Hopkins Eyles, CAP MA. November 8, 2022, Webinar Series
- Coordination Meeting with International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA) . November 11, 2022, Virtual mtg.
- Prevention Education: UPC, Drug Prevention, and Risk Behavior Prevention. November 15, 2022, Webinar Series
- Fentanyl: What You Need to Know Now. November 17, 2022, Webinar Series
- Expert Perspectives on Behavioral Healthcare for Youth and Young Adults, November 18, 2022 Virtual mtg
- Presentations at the Lisbon 2022 Addictions Conference, November, 25-27, Lisbon Portugal.

## CONNECT WITH US:

- Visit our website for more information: [www.icuddr.org](http://www.icuddr.org)
- View our resources: <https://www.icuddr.org/resources/resources.aspx>
- Please reach out via email if we can be of assistance: [info@icuddr.org](mailto:info@icuddr.org)
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